

Message Text

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42

ACTION EA-10

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TAGS: SEATO, TH, MILI

SUBJECT: SEATO EXERCISE SEATEX 53

REF: A) JCS 280318Z FEB 75

B) BANGKOK 3639

C) SEATO SEAP 4E

1. IN RESPONSE TO REF A USMILADREP FORWARDED PROPOSALS TO SEC. GEN. SEVERAL QUESTIONS HAVE BEEN RAISED AT PERMANENT WORKING GROUP ON USG INTENT IN INCLUDING CIVILIAN PARTICIPATION IN AND TITLE CHANGE OF SEATEX 53.

2. THE BASIC TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR) FOR THESE EXERCISES IS SEATO SEAP 4, "PRINCIPLES AND PROCEDURES FOR STAGING SEATO MILITARY EXERCISES". THIS TOR, TO WHICH THE USG HAS FORMALLY AGREED, STATES THAT "SEATO EXERCISES WILL NORMALLY BE LIMITED TO TWO IN ANY ONE TRAINING YEAR, ONE OF WHICH WILL BE MARITIME EXERCISE." THUS IF WE SUCCEED IN CHANGING PX-53 FROM AN "EXERCISE" TO A "PROJECT" WE WILL HAVE CREATED THE DILEMMA OF NOT FULFILLING TERMS OF THE TOR, I.E., CONDUCTING TWO EXERCISES PER TRAINING PERIOD.

3. ALSO, TOR INDICATES THROUGHOUT, THAT MILITARY CIVIC ACTION EXERCISES, WHICH ARE DEFINED AND WHICH PX-53 HAS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BEEN SO IDENTIFIED, INVOLVE THE USE OF MILITARY FORCES

OF MEMBER NATIONS UNDER MILITARY DIRECTION AND CONTROL. HOWEVER, THIS DOES NOT EXCLUDE THE USE OF CIVILIANS. THE UTILIZATION OF CIVILIANS IN A MILITARY CIVIC ACTION EXERCISE WAS EFFECTIVELY DEMONSTRATED BY RTG, THE HOST GOVERNMENT FOR THE SUCCESSFUL EXERCISE PX-52, THE FIRST EXERCISE OF ITS TYPE CONDUCTED BY SEATO.

4. IF U.S. MILITARY SUPPORT IS ABSENT AND CIVILIAN DIRECTION AND CONTROL ESTABLISHED THEN SEATO SEAP 4E IS NO LONGER APPLICABLE. PROCEDURAL PROBLEMS WILL THEN EMERGE IN SEATO OVER WHICH SEATO INTERNATIONAL STAFF OFFICE WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR PX-53 AND WHETHER A SUBSTITUTE MILITARY EXERCISE MUST BE INTRODUCED (PARA 2 ABOVE). ALSO, WE UNDOUBTEDLY WILL BE OBLIGED TO WRITE A NEW TOR FOR THESE CIVILIAN PROJECTS.

5. IF FINANCIAL SUPPORT BY CIVILIAN AGENCIES WITH MODEST CIVILIAN PARTICIPATION ALONG WITH U.S. MILITARY INVOLVEMENT IS VISUALIZED, WE THEN SEE NO SIGNIFICANT PROBLEMS IN REF A'S PROPOSALS. HOWEVER, TO STAY IN LINE WITH SEATO SEAP 4E WE UNDOUBTEDLY WILL HAVE TO CONCEDE THE ORIGINAL TERM "MILITARY CIVIC ACTION EXERCISE." MASTERS

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